09 LC 25 5382

House Resolution 94

By: Representatives Knight of the 126th, Lane of the 158th, and Burns of the 157th

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing January 15, 2009, as "Sportsmen's Day at the Capitol"; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has a great heritage of hunting and fishing that is enjoyed
- 3 by 1.1 million Georgia residents each year; and
- 4 WHEREAS, hunting and fishing generates \$198 million in state and local tax revenue
- 5 annually; directly supports 31,000 jobs in Georgia; and has a total economic impact of \$3
- 6 billion annually; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Georgia is now the number one hunting destination state in the nation; and
- 8 WHEREAS, license fees from hunters and anglers are the primary source for wildlife
- 9 management area land acquisition in Georgia totaling over 100,000 acres since the late
- 10 1980's and the annual lease payments on approximately 225,000 acres of wildlife areas.
- 11 These are natural lands which not only provide hunting and fishing opportunities to Georgia
- 12 citizens but are also used by bird-watchers, hikers, campers, and educational groups; and
- 13 WHEREAS, license fees and excise taxes from hunters and anglers have funded the
- successful restoration of white-tailed deer, wild turkey, black bear, bobwhite quail and wood
- ducks in Georgia and the stocking of millions of game fish in lakes and rivers all over the
- 16 state; and
- 17 WHEREAS, the sportsmen and sportswomen of Georgia and the conservation organizations
- 18 that they support privately with millions of dollars each year work to preserve our State's
- 19 natural lands and wildlife which includes nongame as well as game animals.
- 20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
- 21 the members of this body recognize January 15, 2009, as "Sportsmen's Day at the Capitol."

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized

23 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Legislative

24 Sportsmen's Caucus.